LUNCH RUSH
FRENCH FARE FOR A FRACTION OF THE PRICE {page 15}

ROUGH WATERS
DEPP, LONGTIME PARTNER IN TROUBLE
{page 13}

RUFFLED FEATHERS
THATCHERITES GIVE FILM'S IRON LADY COLD RECEPTION {page 12}

VANCOUVER metro®

Tuesday, January 10, 2012
www.metronews.ca

News worth sharing.

School locked down after knife attack

Three teen girls being sought **Officers searched classroom to classroom after incident**

JENNIFER KWOK
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

JENNIFER KWOK/FOR METRO

▶ Vancouver police officers outside Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School Monday.

An East Vancouver high school was locked down Monday after a girl was slashed with a knife.

Three teenage girls entered Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School at about 1:30 p.m. and attacked the victim, cutting her arm and chopping off some of her hair with a blade, according to Kurt Heinrich, Vancouver School Board spokesman.

The 14-year-old student was taken to a first-aid room and later sent to BC Children's Hospital for stitches. The wound was not life-threatening.

Following the attack, police were called and the school went into a "code red" lockdown. All entrances to the school and classrooms were locked and police searched classroom to classroom.

Outside the school Monday afternoon, half a dozen police officers could be seen securing the area. East 24th Avenue was blocked to traffic and police dogs were brought in to aid in the search.

Anxious parents waited on the corner of Prince Edward Street and waited until the lockdown ended around 3:30 p.m.

Nearby David Livingstone Elementary was placed on "code yellow." The entrances to the school were locked, but classes continued inside.

Vancouver police described the three suspects as being in their mid-teens.

One has a medium build and was wearing a long blue skirt.

The second, who was wearing light-coloured jeans, has a slim build and short black hair. Police said she smelled of marijuana and alcohol.

The third girl was wearing grey skateboard shoes and black pants.

At press time, the teens had not been located and police were investigating possible motives for the attack.

WITH FILES FROM JEFF HODSON

Local

Ecstasy kills yet again

Woman latest to suffer fatal reaction {page 3}

Families in it together

Photo exhibit captures the faces of prostate cancer {page 14}

Canucks fall prey to Panthers

Vancouver edged 2-1 in Florida {page 17}

Bungee jumping gone wrong

Aussie woman survives long plunge into river {page 6}

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Another woman dies after taking ecstasy

Recent string of deaths not due to 'bad batch' of drug but to people's individual reactions: VPD ◐ Police warn of dangers of popping pills

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Const. Lindsey Houghton says there's no "quality control" when it comes to street drugs like ecstasy. He issued the warning at the Vancouver Police Department's Cambie Street building on Monday.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

A Vancouver woman died in hospital on Sunday afternoon after taking ecstasy at a house party, police said Monday.

Emergency services were called to a home in the 5500 block of Larch Street shortly after 6 a.m., when the woman's friends found her unresponsive.

Const. Lindsey Houghton, spokesperson for the Vancouver Police Department, said the woman, 22, began experiencing nausea, headaches and shortness of breath. Her friends told her to lie down. Several hours later, when they checked up on her, they found no pulse.

The victim was taken to hospital, where she later died.

"An investigation took place and all information collected suggests that the victim willingly, along with several of her friends who did not have a reaction, ingested the drugs as part of her recreational drug use," Houghton said.

He also issued a public warning about the "inherent risks" of taking ecstasy.

"There's no quality control with these people who are making ecstasy in bathtubs or their stoves and kitchens," he said, adding that people may react differently to the drug and should pay attention to warning signs.

This is the first ecstasy death in the city this year.

Last month, a 17-year-old Abbotsford girl died after taking the drug with friends to lose weight. A 24-year-old woman, also from Abbotsford, remains in critical condition after taking several doses while at a New Year's Eve party.

The victim's name is not being released at the request of the family. The B.C. Coroners Services is leading the investigation.

Sidhu's mother, uncle to remain in custody

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Crown counsel Deborah Strachan

The mother and uncle of Jaswinder (Jassi) Kaur Sidhu, who was murdered in India more than 11 years ago, made their first appearance in a Vancouver courtroom on Monday.

Sidhu's mother, Malkit Kaur Sidhu, 63, and maternal uncle, Surjit Singh Badesha, 67, were arrested on Friday on an extradition warrant in connection with the June 2000 murder.

Jassi Sidhu, a beautician who lived in Maple Ridge, was killed in Punjab, allegedly by a gang of men, after secretly marrying a rickshaw driver against her family's wishes.

Crown counsel Deborah Strachan told the court that the two are accused in India of conspiring to commit murder.

They will appear by video on Wednesday at 2 p.m., at which point the court will determine the date for a bail hearing.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS

Province seeks new Bountiful prosecutor

A new special prosecutor will probe alleged criminal activity in Bountiful, B.C., dating back to the 1980s.

Attorney General Shirley Bond said Monday that Richard Peck is leaving the file on the polygamous community and a search for a new prosecutor will begin immediately.

"There is an ongoing RCMP investigation into allegations that underage girls were transported between Bountiful and the United States, and that these and other activities from the early 1980s to present day may have involved serious criminal offences, including child exploitation, sexual assault and procurement," Bond said in a statement.

MATT KIELTYKA

Milton Wong tribute is next week

A memorial service for philanthropist Milton Wong, who died on Dec. 31, will be held on Jan. 20, his family said Monday. The service will be held at 3 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral in Vancouver. Seating will be limited.

JENNIFER KWOK

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Milton Wong

Two face riot charges

Police have made more arrests in connection with June's Stanley Cup riot. Dustin Anderson, 21, of Burnaby, faces charges of participating in a riot and assault. Camille Cacnio, 21, of Richmond, faces charges of participating in a riot and breaking and entering. The Integrated Riot Investigation Team has recommended 215 charges against 80 people.

KENDRA WONG

1 news

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An Israeli politician caps a heated argument with a colleague by dumping a glass of water on him. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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News in brief

Charges in daycare death

COQUITLAM. Charges have been laid against the former operator of a Coquitlam daycare, where a baby died a year ago.

Marie Mcfarren is accused of criminal negligence causing death, failing to provide the necessities of life and obstructing justice.

The one-year-old boy died at the unlicensed home daycare last January.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Campbell off to El Salvador

VOLUNTEERING. Larry Campbell is going south for the winter.

Not for a vacation, but as a member of the Firefighters Without Borders team that's set to depart from Vancouver later this week to deliver firefighting equipment and training in El Salvador.

This is the fifth time Vancouver firefighters will be making the trip.

During his term as mayor of Vancouver, Campbell donated three fire engines to El Salvador to kick-start the city's involvement in helping firefighters in the developing nation.

MATT KIELTYKA

Tourism bleak, NDP accuses

POLITICS. The Liberals have failed to capitalize on post-Olympic tourism opportunities, the NDP criticized Monday.

The opposition party cited 21,500 fewer tourists visiting B.C. in October 2011, a nine per cent drop from the previous year.

KENDRA WONG

Lego store put together

Expected to open in Oakridge Centre in April, it will provide customers with a one-stop shop Would be the fourth in country

KENDRA WONG
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A Lego model depicting the Royal Wedding in March.

The home of the toy building brick is coming to Vancouver.

The Lego Group is reportedly opening its first B.C. Lego store in this spring at Oakridge Centre.

Located in the West Galleria by Safeway, the store is scheduled to open on April 15.

"We have a lot of families that shop here and we haven't always had a ton of offerings for them," said Karina Perkins, marketing director of Oakridge Centre. "Lego is one of those stores that have universal appeal to anyone."

The Lego Group would not confirm the opening of the store on Monday. However, on Dec. 12 it released a job posting on the company website for a store manager in Vancouver.

According to the posting, this one-stop shop for Lego lovers will include free monthly mini builds, in-store play and Lego club meetings, according to the posting.

Perkins noted the store will be similar to those in other Canadian cities which offer Pick A Brick walls featuring Lego elements in a variety of colours and shapes in bulk and an interactive play area designed for hands-on play.

Lego has one store in Calgary and two in Toronto.

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Accused mom testifies at Shafia trial

Tooba Yahya is facing trial in a case prosecutors allege was a so-called honour killing

A woman accused of killing her three daughters and her husband's other wife suggested Monday that one daughter tried to commit suicide because of a pair of pants, and not because she was deeply unhappy at home.

Tooba Yahya, 42, on trial in Kingston, Ont., along with her husband and son, took the stand as the Shafia family murder trial resumed after the holidays. In often rambling testimony punctuated by heavy sighs, she denied that any of the four victims of what prosecutors allege was a so-called honour killing were treated poorly or abused. Court has heard evidence to the contrary.

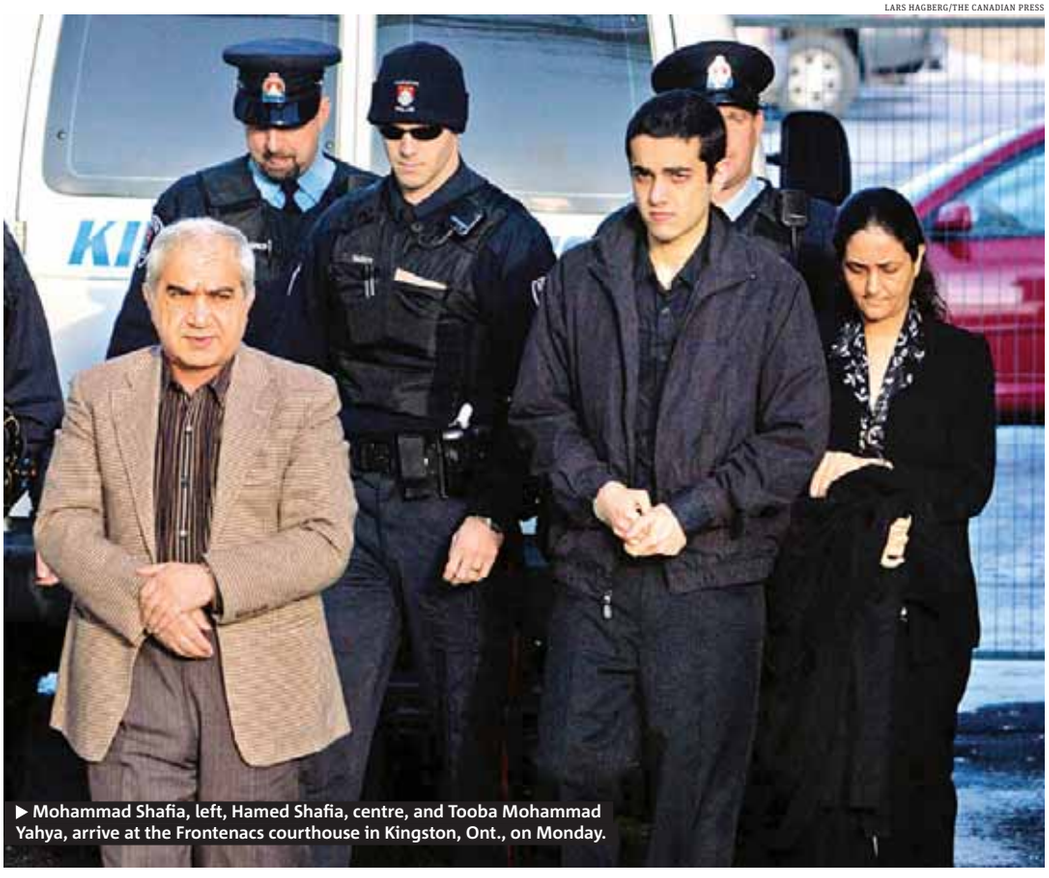
Yahya, Mohammad Shafia, 58, and their eldest son, Hamed, 21, are accused of killing four female relatives over family honour, pushing them into a canal in a car and drowning them. They have each pleaded not guilty to four counts of first-degree murder.

Shafia sisters, Zainab, 19, Sahar, 17, and Geeti, 13, along with Rona Amir Mohammad, 52, Shafia's first wife in a polygamous marriage, were found in a car at the bottom of a canal in Kingston, Ont., on June 30, 2009, when the Montreal family was heading home after a trip to Niagara Falls, Ont. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

In court

- The Crown alleges that Mohammad Shafia in particular was upset that the girls were dating and telling authorities they didn't feel safe at home, and that they were killed to restore family honour.
- Shafia has already taken the stand in his defence, and it remains to be seen whether Hamed, the son, will testify.

LARS HAGBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Mohammad Shafia, left, Hamed Shafia, centre, and Tooba Mohammad Yahya, arrive at the Frontenacs courthouse in Kingston, Ont., on Monday.

Tourist lives to tell tale of bungee-jump mishap

An Australian tourist bungee jumping in Africa plunged 111 metres into a river when her cord snapped, but she managed to swim to safety with a broken collarbone and her legs tied together.

Erin Langworthy told Nine Network television news Sunday that she blacked out briefly when she hit the Zambezi River on the border of Zambia and Zimbabwe on Dec. 31.

"I felt like I'd been slapped all over," the 22-year-old from Perth said.

Video taken of the jump shows the cord snapping and Langworthy smacking into the river before the current pulled her into rapids.

"You get sucked under and then you pop up, so it's very disorienting — I didn't know which was up or down," she said.

She said the trailing cord repeatedly snagged, so she "had to swim down and yank the bungee cord out of whatever it was caught on to make it to the surface."

Langworthy swam through the rapids to reach the Zimbabwe bank.

Southern Province Police Commissioner Brenda Muntemba told the Post Zambia newspaper that Langworthy was treated at a clinic in Zimbabwe before being evacuated to South Africa.

The jump from the Victoria Falls Bridge is operated by Safari Par Excellence, whose website describes the bungee experience as "111 metres of pure Adrenalin!" **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

CHANNEL 9 VIA APTN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Erin Langworthy, 22, of Perth, Australia, bungee jumps over the Zambezi River on Dec. 31 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

To watch the video, scan the code or go to metronews.ca.

Suspects arrested in Tim Hortons' thefts

Two men have been arrested following overnight thefts at five Tim Hortons restaurants in the Toronto area in which debit machines were stolen from drive-thru windows.

Two suspects, both aged 20, were arrested. Between them, they face 48 theft-related charges. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Cops facing a tongue twister

Authorities in Wisconsin are facing a tongue twister thanks to the arrest of Beezow Doo-Doo Zopittybop-Bop-Bop. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

DANE COUNTY SHERIFF/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Beezow Doo-Doo Zopittybop-Bop-Bop

Man allegedly stole from dead woman

An Ontario man is facing charges after allegedly taking a woman's purse as she lay dead following a hit-and-run.

The 20-year-old woman was struck and killed early last Sept. 18 as she was crossing a street in Hamilton. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Not all activists are bad: Minister

Environmental groups say they were demonized in a letter by Joe Oliver

Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver says he isn't opposed to all environmentalists — just the foreigner ones who are trying to damage Canada's interest.

"We are not demonizing," Oliver said Monday after releasing a letter that referred to "environmental and other radical groups" trying to "hijack" with foreign money hearings on a pipeline that would bring Alberta oilsands bitumen to port at Kimitat, B.C.

"I have not called everybody radicals, nor do I think they are, nor do I think they're trying to stop every kind of development. But there are some that do."

Environmentalists — who called Oliver's letter everything from appalling to a hyperbolic rant — pointed out the vast majority of the people and money behind their campaign against the proposed Northern Gateway project is Canadian.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Minister of Natural Resources Joe Oliver

They released a poll taken last spring that suggests British Columbians are much more concerned about foreign money funding the oilpatch.

Policy experts criticized the letter for singling out Canadians who have concerns and wondered if the government is setting the stage for further attacks on environmentalists and the regulatory process.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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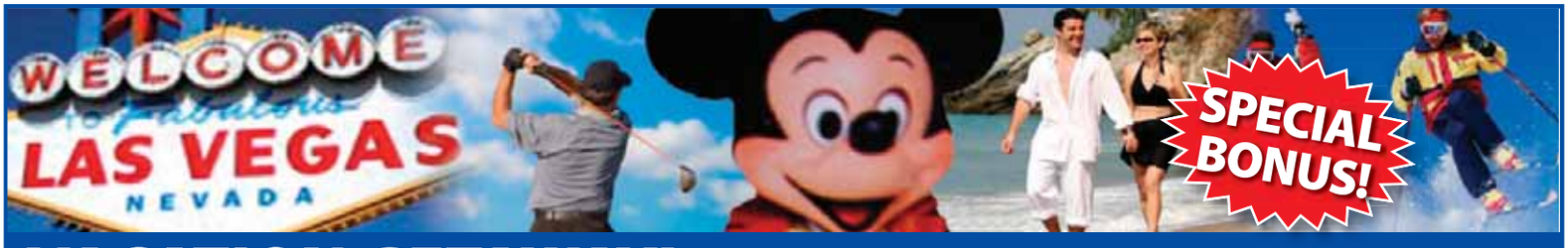

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‘Why, Oscar?’ mother asks

Hundreds of people attend funeral of Canadian who died in police custody while visiting Grenada

COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Oscar Bartholomew’s mother Andrianne, 71, at her son’s casket during his funeral Monday in Crochu, Grenada.

A Toronto man allegedly beaten to death by police in Grenada was remembered Monday as larger than life.

Grenada’s prime minister was among the attendees at a funeral for Toronto resident Oscar Bartholomew.

The 39-year-old died in police custody after his arrest on Boxing Day.

The death of Bartholomew, who was visiting his homeland over Christmas, has evoked outrage and sympathy.

As a result, his funeral in the hamlet of Crochu has garnered widespread attention throughout the tiny country.

Dolette Cyr Bartholomew, his wife of 10 years, sat stoically in the church with her daughter Melanie, who brushed away tears during the service.

Father Anthony Marfo Dwomo spoke of forgiveness during his homily, while others remembered Bartholomew as a man who was larger than life and loved his family.

Roslyn Charles, a friend from Toronto, recalled Bartholomew as “quiet” and hard-working.

“I’ve never seen this guy in any trouble,” Charles said.

Earlier, Bartholomew’s mother Andrianne had to be restrained by relatives at his open casket as she wept, “Why, Oscar?”

Bartholomew’s death has also highlighted claims from those who say Grenada suffers from a systemic problem with poorly trained and poorly disciplined police.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Bomb-plot suspect arrested

FLORIDA. A 25-year-old man from the former Yugoslavia was charged with an alleged plot to attack crowded locations in the Tampa area, including nightclubs, with a car bomb, assault rifle and other explosives, U.S. federal authorities said Monday.

The U.S. Department of Justice announced the arrest of Sami Osmakac, whose first appearance in federal court was scheduled for Monday afternoon.

Authorities say Osmakac is a naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in the former Yugoslavia. He has been charged with one count of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Threats left on dumped bodies

MEXICO. Police in western Mexico have found 13 bodies at a gas station in the state of Michoacan. Michoacan is home base to The Knights Templar cartel, a pseudo-religious gang specializing in methamphetamine production, drug smuggling, extortion and other crimes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celeb chef too posh to pay?

BRITAIN. A celebrity chef apologized on his website Monday after he was caught shoplifting from a supermarket. Antony Worrall Thompson was arrested Friday after reportedly stealing cheese and wine from a Tesco store in the posh riverside town of Henley-on-Thames, west of London. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apocalypse ‘absolutely not near’

Are you sweating over recent dire predictions that the end of the world is upon us?

Relax, because according to one expert, we have at least 500 million years to worry about the problem.

Colin Goldblatt is confidently making plans for late December, despite the fact the Mayan calendar runs out Dec. 21, 2012.

Goldblatt, a professor at the University of Victoria’s School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, believes science and not science fiction will reveal the real apocalyptic end to life and Earth.

His theory hinges on what scientists know about the atmosphere, geology and other planets to make a more accurate prediction. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business outlook hits a low point: Survey

For first time in almost 3 years, firms expect sales to slow over next year But plans to hire have increased

Canadian businesses are becoming more pessimistic about the economy and their future prospects for sales both at home and in foreign markets, the Bank of Canada said Monday.

The central bank's survey of senior management at 100 representative firms shows confidence is well off post-recession highs across the broad spectrum of issues — from sales expectations to investment and hiring intentions, to their ability to pass through their costs to customers.

It is difficult to say whether business executives are the most pessimistic since the recession because the question posed is relative to the past year, but the central bank notes the result suggests firms are more worried about selling their products into the softening demand globally and domestically.

In the survey, 41 per cent said they expected their sales pace to slow, as opposed to 37 per cent that expect an increase. The rest were neutral.

"Overall, the weak U.S. economic outlook, concerns about adverse effects from the situation in Europe and an expected slowing in household spending were among the factors dampening sales prospects," the bank report states.

"Of those firms anticipating higher sales growth over the next 12 months, many cite plans for new product development or diversification into new domestic or external markets."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. MONDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 8.0 (12,197.00)	+ 0.39¢ ($97.76¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
- 25¢ US ($101.31 US)	$3.01 US (- 5¢ US)
	Gold
	$1,608.10 US (+ $8.70 US)

Big. Screen

▶ Workers set up a flat screen display at the Samsung exhibit for the Consumer Electronics Show on Monday in Las Vegas.

JULIE JACOBSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The latest in electronics in Vegas

The 2012 International CES trade show, the world's largest consumer electronics exhibition starts Tuesday.

104 If Iberia pilots strike again, it will force the Spanish airline to cancel another 104 flights, affecting 23,000 passengers in total.

Pilots plan to strike again

Spanish airline Iberia says it cancelled 109 flights on a third day of stoppages by pilots protesting the company's planned new budget carrier. Iberia said it rescheduled most flights. Pilots union SEPLA says it will strike again Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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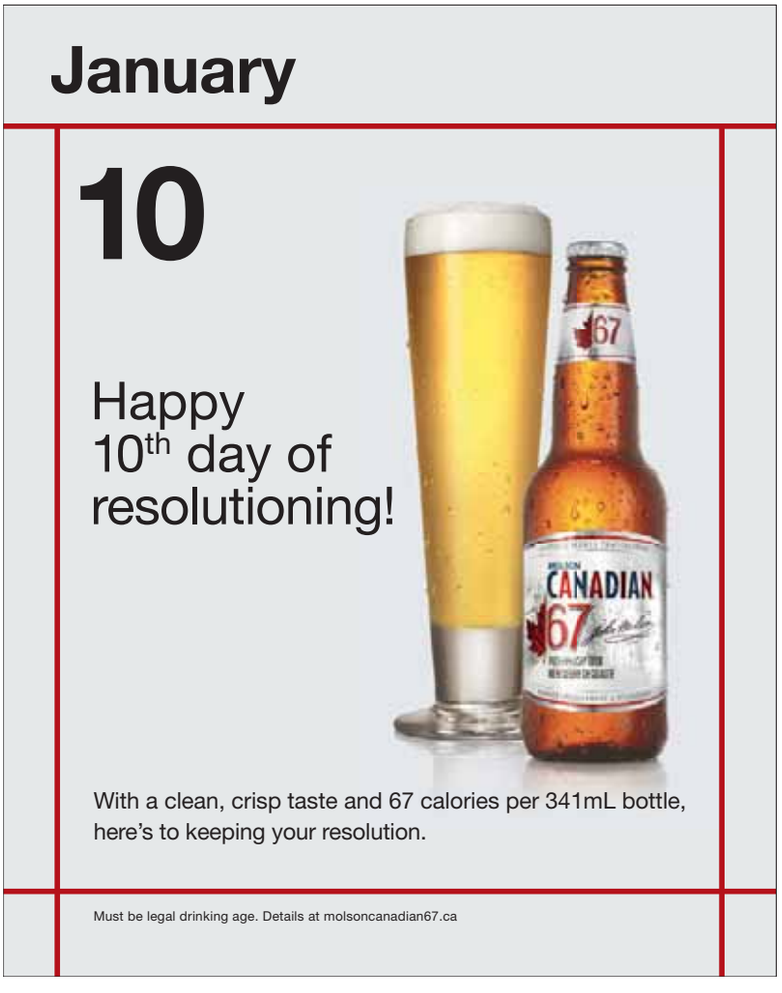
January
10
Happy 10th day of resolutioning!
CANADIAN 67
With a clean, crisp taste and 67 calories per 341mL bottle, here's to keeping your resolution.
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IN DEFENCE OF STAYING IN

SHE SAYS ...

JESSICA NAPIER
METRO

After weeks of office parties, festive get-togethers and family dinners, January provides a welcome relief from being overscheduled. With nothing to do and nowhere to go, a bare calendar feels like the ultimate luxury.

While the gloomy stretch between the holidays and spring is an ideal time to be anti-social (read: broke and lazy), there are still plenty of people who will try and coerce you out of your sweatpants and into a taxi headed for a night out on the town.

Sure, a cocktail can be nice, and every good Canadian girl knows how to navigate icy sidewalks and snow banks in her least sensible heels, but as the temperature dips, the idea of going to a club or a bar or anywhere that isn't your own living room becomes less and less appealing.

"I think, we should stop trying so hard to have fun and embrace these precious weeks of guilt-free hibernation while they last. I mean, do you really want to risk hypothermia just to spend another Saturday night covered in spilled drinks and other people's sweat, elbowing your way across a crowded dance floor and wondering, 'Am I having fun yet?'"

I think we should stop trying so hard to have fun and embrace these precious weeks of guilt-free hibernation while they last. I mean, do you really want to risk hypothermia just to spend another Saturday night covered in spilled drinks and other people's sweat, elbowing your way across a crowded dance floor and wondering, "Am I having fun yet?"

This winter, I've decided that staying in is the new going out. Instead of whining about frostbitten exposed limbs and overpriced mixed drinks, can we all agree to just stay indoors for the next few months?

Now, before you dismiss me as a friendless shut-in, give the idea of becoming a winter hermit a chance. Think of all the money you'll save, the calories you wont consume, the clothes that will go un-ruined! A few months of self-imposed house arrest will do wonders for your wallet, waistline and probably your mental health.

You'll host board-game nights, learn how to cook your own meals, sort out your underwear drawer, actually read all those books you so proudly display on your coffee table and go to bed at a reasonable hour. If you're lucky, you'll have a fireplace and all of these indoor activities will seem 1,000 times better because of it.

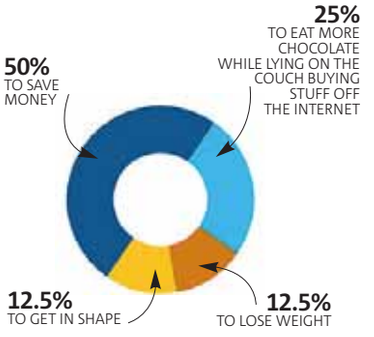
Ultimately, all any winter hermit really needs is a few bottles of red wine and a subscription to Netflix. Perhaps if you're feeling really ambitious, you'll invite some low-key companions over to share that aforementioned wine and discuss how you actually don't miss going places and doing things at all.

Read more of Jessica Napier's columns at metronews.ca/shesays

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

This year your new year's resolution is...



Local tweets

- **@areminder:** Instead of a suspension, can the NHL just release Brad Marchand on to the streets of Vancouver for an afternoon? We got this.
- **@littlemissrisk:** @vanmag_com Aw, c'mon... let's stop perpetuating the negative. I will write "Why Vancouver Men Rule" for you! #vancitylove
- **@VancityBuzz:** The #Vancouver Hot Chocolate Festival is back! Details here: ow.ly/8nfvd RT if you love Hot Chocolate :)
- **@ParkBoard:** Vancouver parks go mobile! Navigate your way around Vancouver's parks with our free new map app for iPhone ow.ly/8nbP3
- **erin_ireland:** dine out #vancouver reservations are now open to the public! full festival details --> bit.ly/wHWkjU
- **@sportsnetmurph:** Vigneault angry after #canucks skate. Said Marchand is going to "get it" one day + if NHL doesn't take care of him someone else will.
- **@mirtle:** Marchand suspended five games and will forfeit $152,439.02 in salary.

ERV PETTY/ALASKA DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Daily Zoom

Buried under a blanket of snow

Alaska town calls state for help

A house is buried in snow in the fishing town of Cordova, Ala., in this Jan. 7 photo.

Residents have turned to the state to help them dig out of massive snow levels that have collapsed roofs, triggered avalanches and even covered doors, trapping some people in their homes. Cordova is used to snow, but not like this. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heavy, wet snow threatens homes

Officials said at least three buildings have collapsed or partially collapsed, and six homes are deemed severely stressed by heavy, wet snow.

The city has set up a shelter at a local recreation centre, but said people leaving homes in avalanche-risky areas have been staying with other residents.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We had no alternative but to declare an emergency. ... It became a life-safety issue."

CORDOVA MAYOR JIM KALLANDER

Quite a winter wonderland

The National Guard reported more than 5.5 metres of snow has fallen in the past weeks, although the National Weather Service did not immediately have a measurement.

"There's nowhere to go with the snow because it's piled up so high," said Wendy Rainney, who owns the Orca Adventure Lodge.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2 scene

Writer captures Maggie's mettle

Screenwriter Abi Morgan ruffles feathers for her portrayal of Margaret Thatcher in the Iron Lady Says the film is a study of power and loss

HANDOUT

Screenwriter Abi Morgan says that Meryl Streep as Margaret Thatcher is 'absolutely dream casting.'

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Margaret Thatcher, the longest reigning British Prime Minister of the 20th Century, remains a polarizing figure even though she hasn't held office since 1990.

She's a hero to some: Gloucester City Council leader Paul James calls her "the best prime minister there's been." But a villain to others: "She made all manner of cuts society is still recovering from," says Steve Lydon, branch secretary of Stroud Labour Party.

She is now the subject of The Iron Lady — a nickname Thatcher picked up from Soviet newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda — a biography starring Meryl Streep, written by Shame playwright Abi Morgan.

The film has already ruffled the feathers of Thatcher devotees. Tim Bell, a longtime associate of the former PM, called the movie a "non-event" and Tory loyalist Norman Tebbit commented that Thatcher was "never, in my experience, the half-hysterical, over-emotional, over-acting woman portrayed by Meryl Streep."

"It's not a documentary, it's not a social history, it's a drama," says Morgan on the controversy.

"I think if you see yourself as an artist, part of being an artist is to comment on your times. I feel it is a comment but it is a creative comment.

"I hope it's a humane and dignified portrayal. I think anybody can see it's not an attempt to sabotage.

"I feel it is as much the study of power, the study of loss and the study of the isolation of office and [because] Margaret Thatcher is an icon, a recognizable public figure, she was a way to filter those very powerful themes."

"I think she is an absolutely fascinating actress and I felt incredibly reassured when I learned Meryl was going to play the part because I knew she would imbue that character with such humanity and such complexity."
IRON LADY WRITER ABI MORGAN ON THE CASTING OF MERYL STREEP

Morgan says those "themes and the ideas and the human story are bigger than the individual."

As written, the character of Thatcher is complex. The film first shows her long after her glory days and works backwards through her career highlights.

Meryl Streep plays her in various stages of her career.

"She is absolutely dream casting," says Morgan.

"There are, obviously, amazing British actors and one would have been lucky to work with any of them, but what was exciting to me about working with Meryl is that she's a complete shape shifter.

"I think she is an absolutely fascinating actress and I felt incredibly reassured when I learned Meryl was going to play the part because I knew she would imbue that character with such humanity and such complexity.

"She has such integrity, she just elevates the work."

Abi Morgan

- British playwright and screenwriter born in 1968
- Morgan first wanted to be an actress, but after university took a postgraduate writing course instead
- She had her start writing plays for theatres in England
- She also co-wrote Shame, with Steve McQueen

How Phyllida Lloyd softened an Iron Lady

Considering the historical and controversial stature of Margaret Thatcher's 11-year run as the U.K.'s prime minister, it's surprising there hasn't been a major motion picture about her until now. But director Phyllida Lloyd is happy to get there first. Choosing to focus on the Thatcher of today, with her political career shown in flashback, Lloyd offers a softer, more sympathetic depiction of a woman still reviled by many.

Why do you think there hasn't been a film exclusively about Thatcher until now?
It is surprising. This movie's been a long time in development, and it began as a film about the Falklands War, and then [screenwriter] Abi [Morgan] came onboard and dropped this bombshell and said, "What about setting it in the present?" And I think from that moment everything flowed. I don't know why there hasn't been, to be honest.

Was the focus on her as an older woman part of an attempt to make her more sympathetic, since there is still so much animosity toward her?
In England, she's still one of the most divisive characters, and the debate about her policies and her legacy is really being largely stuck. There's one way of looking at her where she is the monster she-devil who ruined the lives of millions, and on the other hand she is Saint Margaret who rescued Britain from its post-war decline and put us back on the world stage. And there's very little you can find in between those two positions. What we wanted to do was go, "OK, that's all that. Let's just turn this thing upside down and look at it from a completely different point of view." We talked about it very much as a sort of King Lear for girls. It was a story of a mighty leader who was brought down partly by the enemy within and also by their own kind of hubris.

NED EHRBAR

Scene in brief

Elton John is writing his first book, a personal account of the AIDS crisis. The musician says Love is the Cure: Ending the Global Aids Epidemic will include memories of friends who died of AIDS-related illnesses, including Queen frontman Freddie Mercury. British publisher Hodder & Stoughton says the book will be published in July along with an audio book read by the British pop star. The U.S. publisher is Little, Brown.
Proceeds will go to the Elton John's AIDS Foundation.
John said Monday the book would ask why more is not being done to cure the disease. He said AIDS "is a disease that must be cured not by a miraculous vaccine, but by changing hearts and minds, and through a collective effort to break down social barriers."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom Hanks' futuristic web series Electric City to stream on Yahoo

Cakes over cankles for Jillian Michaels

Personal trainer leaves The Doctors over difference of opinions

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Jillian Michaels

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Jillian Michaels, the trainer we would least like to cross paths with in a dark alley, made a splash when she joined the hit syndicated show The Doctors this year as a co-host.

But, last week, after only half the season, she left the show. The split, she told Metro, had to do with cankles.

"It was like the relationship that looks perfect on paper and when you got there it just was all wrong," she told us over the phone.

"They wanted me to do segments on cankles and I wanted to do segments on food desserts. I wanted to do exposés on how prisoners have better food than our children at public schools. It wasn't anybody's fault, it really wasn't.

"There's no hard feelings."

Michaels said she called one of the producers she was close to in order to end things.

"I said, 'Listen, I know that this isn't working for you guys, because you know I'm not happy and I don't feel happy doing it, and my fans don't like me doing it and your fans don't like me doing what I wanna do, and you know let's just walk away amicably.'"

Food desserts? Public school cafeteria exposés?

What is she doing, trying to reposition herself as a new Lisa Ling — but with biceps?

Johnny Depp

Depp headed for breakup?

It may be trouble in paradise for Johnny Depp, as the relationship between the Pirates of the Caribbean star and Vanessa Paradis is reportedly on the rocks, according to Radar Online.

"Johnny isn't handling anything well right now," a source says.

"People around him are worried about how Johnny is doing because he and Vanessa seem so fractured right now. Their relationship is heading toward the end."

METRO

ARCTIC AIR
THE ADVENTURE BEGINS
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Contest closes January 27, 2012 at 11:59pm EST. Open to Canadian residents over the age of majority. Two prizes available to be won valued at approximately $7,350 and $9,995 respectively. Mathematical skill testing question required. No purchase necessary.
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3 life

Gift pick

Bright eyes

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METRO

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Lower cutoff for lead poisoning raises awareness of how to protect kids

MICHELE TARAS

▶ Prostate cancer is expected to affect 25,000 Canadian men this year. About 4,100 men will die of it.

The faces of cancer

Photo exhibit travelling across Canada to show exactly who prostate cancer has affected

CELIA MILNE
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Who gets prostate cancer? What do they look like? A new photo exhibit takes us into the inner world of this disease, showing us the fear, sadness, love, loss and hope that survivors and their families feel.

Prostate cancer got personal recently when 246,000 Canadians participated in Movember to raise money and awareness about the disease. Today, a photo exhibit called TIEd Together begins in Toronto before going across Canada.

"The images illustrate the faces of prostate cancer — men of all ages and races and their families. It communicates that prostate cancer doesn't just affect the man, but the whole family," says Rebecca von Goetz, executive vice president of Prostate Cancer Canada (PCC) in Toronto.

The exhibit was created by PCC in partnership with PhotoSensitive, an organization that calls attention — through black-and-white photography — to social issues such as AIDS, First Nations literacy and natural disasters.

TIEd Together includes more than 100 images and 10 video interviews with cancer survivors and their loved ones.

Included in the exhibit are pictures of Jack Layton, Pierre Trudeau and Alex Baumann.

The exhibit will show at Brookfield Place in Toronto from Jan. 10 to 21. PCC is looking at future showings in Vancouver, Calgary Edmonton, Winnipeg and Ottawa.

"As devastating a disease as it is, the images show hope and the strength that these survivors have to continue to enjoy life, despite its challenges," says von Goetz.

Arthritis/Fibromyalgia Self-Management Program - 6 week workshop

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- Prevent/delay osteoporosis; prevent falls; evaluate treatment options
- Take action and live the best life possible!

Free Six-Session workshop for adults with any form of Arthritis and Fibromyalgia, family members and friends welcome.

Date and Time: Thursday afternoons, 2:00 - 4:30pm, January 26 until March 1, 2012
Location: Vancouver Native Health Society, 449 E. Hastings Street, Vancouver BC
To Register: RSVP (604) 940-1273

University of Victoria | Centre on Aging

Do your resolutions include finding a new career?

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Dine Out Vancouver caters to any budget

225 eateries are sharing their offerings at a fraction of the regular price Try Bistro Pastis' Steak Tartare

ERIN IRELAND

Steak Tartare with Pomme Frites and Cornichons ($15 appetizer, $23 main)

LUNCH RUSH

ERIN IRELAND
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

If it weren't for Dine Out Vancouver, January might be the least delicious month of the year.

With 225 participating eateries, anyone can indulge in our city's best dining at a fraction of the regular price. The favourites book-up within minutes, so make your reservations quickly.

Bistro Pastis is one of the top French restaurants in Vancouver and therefore an excellent choice for a Dine Out meal.

Try one of its rich, meaty staples, like Steak Tartare — which is the reason my Paris-born server works at the 4th Avenue haunt. It was that good, he said.

'Tangy!' was my first reaction to the chopped New Year Steak, which was wonderfully tender and riddled with capers.

The high grade raw meat was thickly coated in a traditional mix of Worcestershire, incredible house made mayo and other spices.

Bistro Pastis' well-done French classics, charming service, and quaint surroundings are worth three times what you'll pay during Dine Out. Enjoy it while it lasts!

Bistro Pastis
2153 West 4th Ave.
647-731-5020
bistropastis.com
Social lunch: Yes
Client negotiations: Yes
Price range: $10 - $23
Rating: 4.5 out of 5

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

A slow cooker is a wonder gadget to have during the winter season.

Here it is used to cook a green bean casserole.

Just combine the ingredients in the cooker and it's ready in three to four hours.

Preparation:

1. Combine all ingredients except almonds in a 2.5-l slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for 3 to 4 hours. Sprinkle with almonds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CROCK-POT

Ingredients:

- 2 pkgs (each 280 g/10 oz) frozen green beans, thawed
- 1 can (284 ml/10 oz) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped parsley
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped roasted red peppers
- 5 ml (1 tsp) dried sage
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt and pepper
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) nutmeg
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) toasted slivered almonds

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THE WORLD CAN BE A RUDE PLACE

CHARLES THE BUTLER

ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

FOR MORE, VISIT CHARLESMACPHERSON.COM

Good day. I had to write in about adult manners. While my husband was parking our car over by Tags MicMac Mall, myself and youngest grandchild was waiting for him by the entrance of Winners. My grandchild held the door open for about 100 adults and maybe five said thank you. The rest walked by and didn't even look at her. How do I explain this to my grandchild?

I love your email, thank you!

I'm certainly not trying to make excuses for those people who did not say thank you, but it was five days before Christmas and

ISTOCK

▶ Always say thank you.

I'm sure those shoppers were preoccupied with their Christmas shopping in a busy mall.

Some people say that when someone doesn't say thank you, you should say back in a loud stern voice 'you're welcome!' to make them aware of their mistake.

I understand why people want to do that, however I do not advise this because pointing out people's social mistakes publicly is not polite nor the gracious thing to do on your part — two wrongs don't make a right. But I do hear your frustration loud and clear. I promise I'm listening.

So what to tell your granddaughter? Well, the truth is first teaching her to always be polite and say thank you herself (I'm sure you have already done that).

Second, tell her the truth that some people in this world are rude and don't say thank you. This is going to happen to her in life and she has two choices: stop being polite all together or just let it go. Finally, know that, generally, when people are rude such as in these circumstances, they are not trying to purposely hurt her feelings, they just don't know any better.

Ultimately, I believe teaching her to be the example is the right thing to do.

HAVE A QUESTION? EMAIL CHARLES AT ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA.

Rethink RRSPs

ISTOCK

▶ Alison's money rule: Sometimes there are better ways to save for retirement than through RRSPs.

ON MONEY

ALISON GRIFFITHS
MONEY@METRONEWS.CA

This is the time of year when you tell yourself to save more and contribute more to your RRSP. Yes to the first one but the second, perhaps not.

Certainly Canadians need to save more than the current rate of four per cent of income. However, the default destination for those savings, an RRSP, isn't necessarily the right one.

Anyone who is likely to qualify for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) after age 65 is better off with a non-registered investment account or a Tax Free Savings Account (TFSA). Mandatory RRIF withdrawals could result in a reduced or eliminated GIS.

GIS eligibility is reduced as net income rises and disappears entirely at about $16,000 for singles and $21,500 for couples (Old Age Security does not count as income).

At the other end of the scale, those likely to have significant incomes after retirement from a combination of pensions, non-registered investments and other income could face not only a high post-retirement tax rate, but claw back of OAS and a reduction in their personal exemption.

Retirement ready?

- **96% of tax filers** were eligible to contribute to RRSPs in 2010.
- **26% of tax filers** contributed to RRSPs in 2010.

The latter is not well known and can be a considerable shock. Though OAS claw back doesn't kick in until a net income of around $68,000, the age amount tax credit for those 65 and over will be reduced once net income reaches roughly $33,000.

TFSAs are great alternatives for those wanting to save outside an RRSP. However, you can only deposit $5,000 annually. Another alternative are non-registered investment accounts, though you will pay tax on income or capital gains.

A final "savings" alternative is to pay down debt.

Even though your interest costs may be low, every dollar you put on debt is a form of savings.

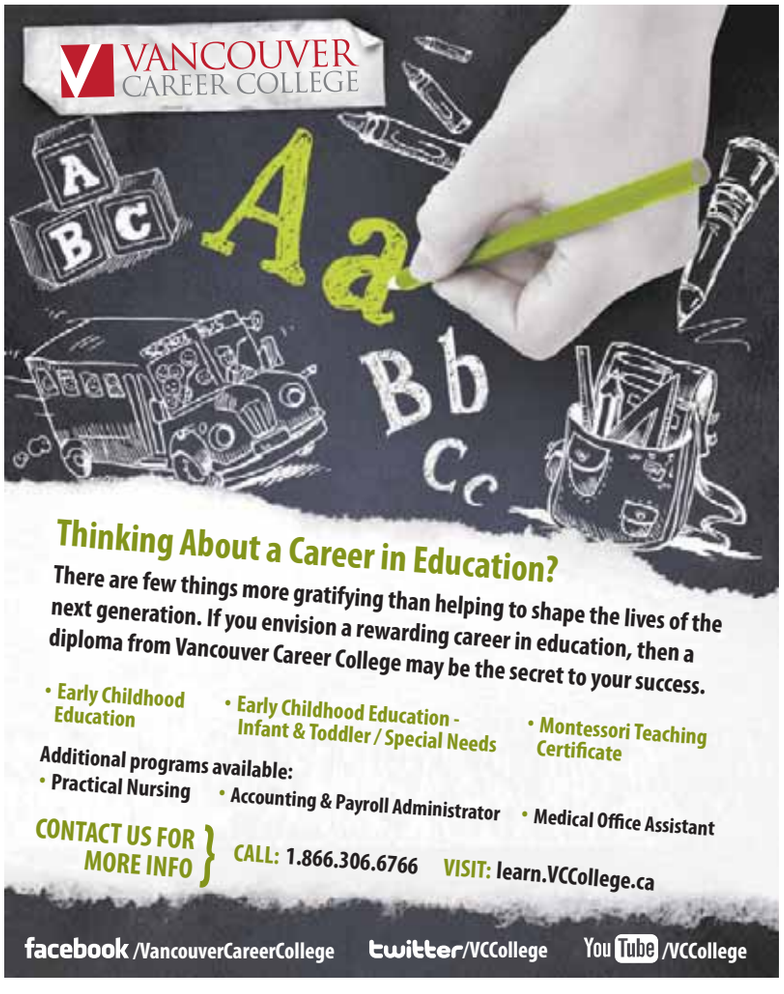
And last week I included details of a contest to win a one-on-one consultation with me. Unfortunately the link was not live. But it is now at my website, alisongriffiths.ca.

ALISON GRIFFITHS IS THE AUTHOR OF COUNT ON YOURSELF: TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR MONEY. REACH HER AT ALISONGRIFFITHS.CA OR GRIFFITHS.ALISON@GMAIL.COM.

Meet me in Vancouver

I hope Vancouver Metro readers will come out to my book signing at the end of the month.

I'll be available for questions from readers and a discussion about investing and money management on Saturday, Jan. 28 from 12:00 p.m. at Chapters in Granville (2505 Granville St.)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Spiralling Blue Jackets fire coach

The last-place Columbus Blue Jackets are turning to a new coach in an effort to salvage something from a disastrous season.

Scott Arniel was fired following a 7-4 loss to Anaheim on Sunday night. Assistant Todd Richards takes over until the end of the season, when a full search will be conducted.

The Blue Jackets are 20 points out of playoff position with half a season to play.

"It's gone off the rails since then," GM Scott Howson said Monday.

Once Howson made the decision to fire his coach, he flew to California on Saturday to deliver the news in person. Howson, who is undeniably on the hot seat himself, sought approval from his bosses to make the move and received it.

This was supposed to be a season of hope and change for the Blue Jackets. Centre Jeff Carter was acquired in a trade from Philadelphia and defenceman James Wisniewski inked a $33-million US, six-year contract.

But Wisniewski was suspended eight games stemming from an ugly pre-season hit and Carter fractured his right foot in October as Columbus stumbled out of the gate. The season was essentially lost by the time the team hit the 15-game mark at 2-12-1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"He did everything he could. ... It just didn't work for him with this group."
COLUMBUS GM SCOTT HOWSON ON FIRING COACH SCOTT ARNIEL

JOEL AUERBACH/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Marcel Goc of the Florida Panthers defends against a shot by Alexander Edler.

Panthers pounce on opportunity

Goc scores in second period to give Florida win over Canucks

The Florida Panthers were excited to break out of their slump with a victory against an elite team.

Marcel Goc scored the winner midway through the second period and the Panthers beat the Vancouver Canucks 2-1 on Monday night.

After a scrum in front of the Vancouver net, Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo ended up on his back during the flurry of shots and Goc was able to poke in the puck with 9:08 left in the period.

"It wasn't a pretty one. It wasn't anything fancy, but it worked," Goc said. "Right now it's a good test for us. We're playing the top teams in the standings. We want to do well and stay with the pack up top."

PANTHERS	CANUCKS
2	1

Goc also had an assist as the Panthers won for just the third time in nine games. Dmitry Kulikov scored the Panthers' first goal and Scott Clemmensen finished with 25 saves.

Kris Versteeg got an assist on Goc's score to break a season-high four-game pointless streak.

Dale Weise scored for Vancouver and Roberto Luongo stopped 20 shots.

Vancouver was outshot 14-2 in the second period.

"We got two shots in the second and that's not good enough," Canucks captain Henrik Sedin said. "I think we came out really strong, but if you're off three or four per cent in a league like this, against a team that's surprising a lot of guys this year, you need to play well."

Vancouver struggled to get back in the game in the third period but the Panthers and Clemmensen were able to shut them out.

"That second period enabled their team to believe they had a chance to win, and when a team starts believing they're in a game and they have a chance to win, sometimes good things happen," Vancouver coach Alain Vigneault said. "In the third period their goaltender made the saves he needed to make and we couldn't score."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAVID PAUL MORRIS/GETTY IMAGES FILE

▶ Barry Larkin with the Reds in 2004.

Shortstop Larkin voted into Hall of Fame

Barry Larkin has been elected to baseball's Hall of Fame.

The former Cincinnati Reds shortstop received 495 votes (86 per cent) in balloting announced Monday by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, well above the necessary 75 per cent. Larkin was on the ballot for the third time after falling 75 votes short last year.

30 **In 1996, Barry Larkin became the first shortstop to have 30 homers and 30 steals in a season.**

He will be inducted July 22 in Cooperstown along with the late Ron Santo, elected last month by the Veterans Committee.

"It's just amazing," Larkin said in an interview on MLB Network. "Last year I just started to smell it a little bit.

"The first year I didn't even think it was fathomable, to be quite honest."

Jack Morris was next with 382 votes (67 per cent), missing by 48 votes on his 13th try but up sharply from 54 per cent last year. The former Toronto Blue Jays pitcher has two chances left on the BBWAA ballot.

Playing from 1986 to '04, Larkin hit .295 with 198 home runs, 960 RBIs, 2,340 hits and 379 stolen bases. He won the 1995 NL MVP award, three Gold Gloves and the 1990 World Series. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Canucks preview

Vancouver at Tampa Bay
4:30 p.m.
TV: SNET

The Canucks (26-13-3) head to Tampa Bay (17-20-3) for their second game in two nights. The Lightning lost three in a row on a mini road trip to start 2012 but have won their last four at home. Steven Stamkos has 11 goals in nine games but saw his five-game goal-scoring streak come to an end on Saturday in a 3-1 loss to Montreal. Vincent Lecavalier has four goals in his last six games. Brett Connolly returned to Tampa Bay's lineup on Saturday after playing for Team Canada at the world junior championship.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scan code for more sports.

Steelers still reeling after loss to Broncos

Mike Tomlin wouldn't change a thing.

Probably.

The Pittsburgh Steelers coach said Monday he'd defend Broncos quarterback Tim Tebow the same way if given another chance, even after Tebow burned the defending AFC champions for an 80-yard touchdown pass on the first play of overtime to lift Denver to a stunning 29-23 victory.

"Obviously they made some nice plays on us and in hindsight you would analyze it, but your options are limited in terms of how you attack them," Tomlin said.

The Steelers crowded the line of scrimmage and dared Tebow to beat the NFL's top-ranked defence with his sometimes erratic left arm. Tebow obliged by throwing for 316 yards and a pair of long touchdowns, including the dart Demaryius Thomas turned into the quickest overtime score in NFL playoff history.

"They made a nice football play," Tomlin said.

One that sent the Steelers into what could be an eventful off-season sooner than they hoped.

A year after falling just short in the Super Bowl, the Steelers went 12-5 despite a rash of injuries affecting every position. Even if Pittsburgh had somehow prevailed in Denver, there's no telling how many healthy bodies would have been left to play on Saturday night in New England.

Left tackle Max Starks and nose tackle Casey Hampton both sustained knee injuries that could require surgery. Defensive end Brett Keisel's groin acted up and linebacker LaMarr Woodley's strained right hamstring remains balky more than two months after tweaking it.

Those injuries don't include quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's sprained left ankle, safety Troy Polamalu's tender right calf or centre Doug Legursky's aching left shoulder.

Cornerback Ike Taylor, who let Thomas get by him for the game-winning TD, will get a chance at redemption next season after signing a four-year contract in the pre-season. So will Polamalu and Woodley, who both agreed to extensions before the regular season kicked off.

They're among the few certainties on a still formidable but aging defence that started seven players in their 30s on Sunday.

Tomlin allowed that "change is a part of this thing" but the Steelers will do what they can to keep the core group together.

There are fewer questions on offence, though the unit underperformed at times, finishing 22nd in the league in points per game.

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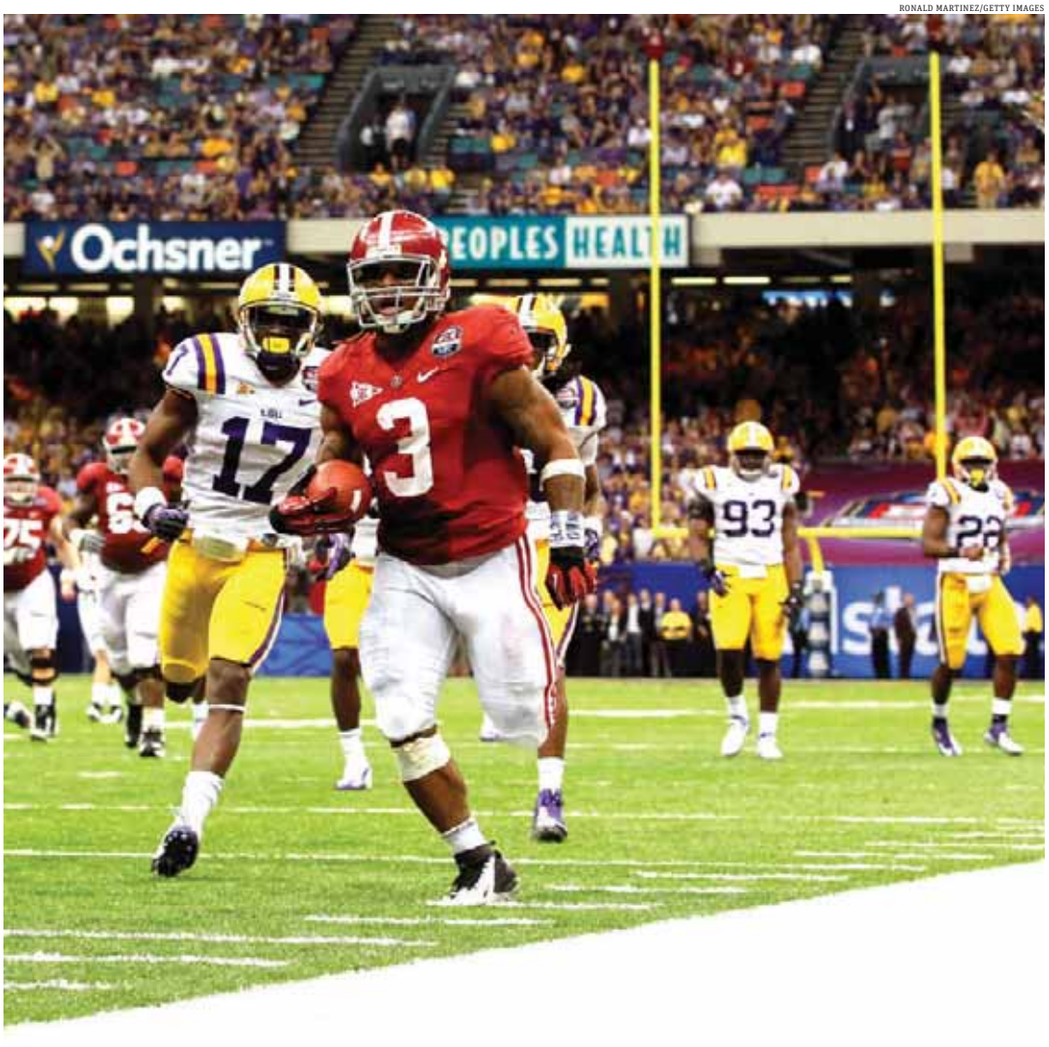
RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Trent Richardson of Alabama runs for a 34-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter against Louisiana State University Monday.

Tide roll over Tigers

No. 2 Alabama shuts down No. 1 LSU in rematch, wins BCS title game
Offence came from five field goals, one big run by Trent Richardson

Jeremy Shelley kicked five field goals and Trent Richardson broke a 34-yard touchdown run late in the fourth quarter as No. 2 Alabama beat No. 1 LSU 21-0 on Monday night — the first shutout in BCS title game history.

Richardson swept around left end and raced down the sideline to the end zone with 4:36 left for the first touchdown between the Southeastern Conference rivals in more than 115 minutes of play and one overtime period.

Alabama (12-1) had put it away before that as Shelley kicked field goals of 23, 34, 41, 35 and 44 yards in the first three quarters to make it 15-0, matching an all-bowl record. He also missed two field goals and an extra-point attempt.

ALABAMA	LSU
21	0

But this time, the missed kicks didn't matter to the Tide.

The Tigers (13-1) and Tide met on Nov. 5 in what was dubbed the Game of the Century, and the Tigers won a touchdown-less, defensive standoff, 9-6 in overtime. Alabama went 2 for 6 on field goals in Tuscaloosa.

Richardson, a Heisman Trophy finalist, ran for 96 yards on 20 carries and offensive player of the game A.J. McCarron passed for 234 yards as the Tide had no problem moving against LSU's second-ranked defence in the nation — just not into the end zone.

Alabama's top-ranked defence didn't need much help. With All-American linebacker Dont'a Hightower leading the way, the Tide held LSU to 92 total yards and five first downs.

For the Tide, it's the second BCS championship in the last three years under coach Nick Saban, who also won a title at LSU in 2003.

In a bowl season filled with high-scoring games, the top two defences in the nation set the tone at the BCS title game. And much like the first meeting, special teams were pivotal.

More than a few people questioned whether Oklahoma State should have been given Alabama's spot in the BCS championship game, but the Tide won over the voters and earned a rematch with the Tigers.

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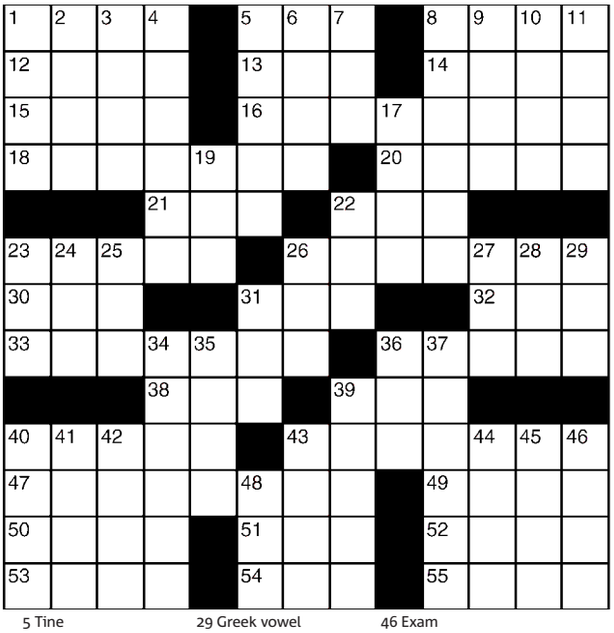
Crossword



Across

1 Swiss peaks
5 Omega preceder
8 Old letter opener
12 Stead
13 Aries animal
14 Cut, as hair
15 Vend
16 Risque
18 Away from the Internet
20 Robust
21 Part of ESL
22 "— the ramparts ..."
23 Flowerless plants
26 Illegally ahead of the football
30 Bullring bravo
31 Diner order, for short
32 Collection
33 SUV's milieu, maybe
36 Ballroom favorite
38 Actress/author Sedaris
39 Rowing need
40 Part of Hispaniola
43 Eccentric
47 In the wings
49 Boleyn or Bancroft
50 El —, Texas
51 Sportscaster Cross
52 Little lice
53 Press
54 Chef Boy-Ar- —
55 Tend texts

Down

1 As well
2 Gladly
3 Money
4 Morose
5 Tine
6 Secure
7 Global currency org.
8 Uses Brillo
9 Troubles
10 Laugh-a-minute type
11 Agile
17 Staff leader?
19 Officeholders
22 Frequently
23 Egg-yung link
24 Sprite
25 Ump
26 Antiquated
27 Doctrine
28 Society newcomer
29 Greek vowel
31 Chesapeake, for one
34 Betrays
35 Leave out
36 U.K. fliers
37 Debonair
39 "The Three Faces —"
40 Kachina worshipper
41 Somewhere out there
42 In that case
43 Shrek, for one
44 Oklahoma city
45 Oppositionist
46 Exam
48 Help

▶ Monday's answer

C	R	A	M		M	O	B		L	I	L	A
R	I	S	E		O	N	O		A	N	O	N
E	G	A	D		D	E	M	O	C	R	A	T
W	A	P	I	T	I		B	R	I	E	F	S
			C	A	F	E		B	E	T		
D	E	M	O	L	I	S	H		R	U	D	E
I	R	E		L	E	T	I	N		R	U	R
S	A	S	H		D	E	M	E	A	N	O	R
		D	U	B		E	A	V	E			
A	D	A	G	I	O		L	E	N	G	T	H
D	E	M	E	N	T	I	A		E	U	R	O
A	L	E	S		I	V	Y		A	R	E	S
M	I	S	T		S	E	A		S	U	E	T

Sudoku

					9		6	
4	6				5	3		
	7		4			5		
	3			4	8		7	
7								1
	9		2	1			5	
		3			6		4	
		1	7				9	8
	2		9					

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Monday's answer ▶

2	6	5	1	4	7	9	3	8
1	3	4	8	9	2	5	7	6
9	7	8	3	6	5	2	1	4
7	5	3	6	1	8	4	2	9
6	8	9	4	2	3	7	5	1
4	2	1	5	7	9	8	6	3
5	1	7	9	3	4	6	8	2
3	9	2	7	8	6	1	4	5
8	4	6	2	5	1	3	9	7

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Smor, You are the type of person I would like to call smor! Always making me laugh-a good quality to have. Love it when you protect me during our occasional walks, if you know what I mean. LOL. I probably made you do things you would have never done yourself so here is to us and for more crazy adventures together. Love you babes! **FROM CECI**

St. Joseph of Cupertino, Thanks for your help during exams! We really appreciate it, especially since we know how busy you are around that time of the year. **FROM ANIA & MADZIA**

Cliff, Hey Cliff if you see this don't give up on contacting me. I can't answer ur texts because I lost my phone. And we have no other way to find eachother so please keep trying till i get everything worked out. **FROM UNITY GIRL**

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Wednesday
4°/0°
Partly cloudy
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Check the 14 day trend.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You may find it difficult to focus today. But that's OK. Variety is good for you.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
People you live and work with will have you running in all directions today. Know when to say "no".

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
According to the planets, you are reading too much into what is really a perfectly normal situation.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You need to find a way to let off steam without turning people against you. Yes, OK, you have a right to be angry but you also need to think about your reputation.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
What annoys you are trivial things that are simply not worth getting worked up about. Ignore insignificant issues today.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
People expect you to speak your mind and you certainly won't let them down over the next 24 hours.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
A breakthrough may be closer than you realize.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Avoid getting involved in disputes that have nothing to do with you.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You may be tempted to place your trust in a friend of a friend, simply because they act and sound so confident, but is that such a good idea?

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Not everyone takes life as seriously as you, so don't be surprised if something you live or work with fails to see the gravity of your current situation.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Someone, somewhere is sure to feel the edge of your tongue today.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20.
Don't get uptight if someone whose support you can usually rely on fails to help you today. They have their own life and their own issues. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KEYSTONE/URS FLUEELER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Monday's Metro.

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